

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LIMA 07137 262142Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 CG-00 COA-02 PM-07 SCI-06 DLOS-07

L-03 DOTE-00 AID-20 SSO-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

DRC-01 EUR-25 /123 W

----- 063893

O 262059Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 1624

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS LIMA 7137

E.O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, CI, PE

SUBJ: VLCC METULA ACCIDENT

REFS: A. STATE 186676

B. STATE 186687

C. LIMA EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER-OPERATIONS CENTER

TELCONS AUG 25

1. AS EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER REPORTED IN TELCON WITH DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS CENTER MORNING AUG 25 (9:45 A.M. LOCAL TIME) EMERGENCY PERMISSION GRANTED FOR ONE OVERFLIGHT PERU BY OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS LOCKHEED ELECTRA L-188, TAIL NUMBER N-285 F PILOTED BY CAPT. BREGE SCHEDULED LEAVE NY FOR PUNTA ARENAS NOON AUG 25.

2. PERUVIAN DIRECTORATE OF AIR TRANSPORT INFORMED EMBASSY OFFICER MORNING AUG 26 THAT ON THE BASIS OF DIRECT CABLE RECEIVED FROM OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS, DIRECTORATE TODAY GRANTED PERMISSION FOR TWO OVERFLIGHTS FROM NY TO PUNTA ARENAS AND RETURN DURING THE PERIOD AUG 25-AUG 27. HOWEVER, THIS CLEARANCE GRANTED FOR ELECTRA L-188 WITH TAIL NUMBER N 281 F WHICH WAS THE TAIL NUMBER GIVEN IN THE DIRECT UNCLASSIFIED

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CABLE FROM OVERSEAS. THIS PLANE (N281 F) OVERFLEW PERU AUG 25

ON ITS WAY TO PUNTA ARENAS.

3. EMBASSY OFFICER RECEIVED A CALL FROM DIRECTORATE AFTERNOON AUG 26 INFORMING US THAT OVERSEAS' ELECTRA, TAIL NUMBER N 285 F, HAD LANDED IN LIMA FOR TECHNICAL REASONS. BECAUSE CLEARANCE HAD BEEN GRANTED ONLY FOR N 281 F, THIS PLANE (N 285 F) WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE UNTIL THE EMBASSY SENT A LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF AIR TRANSPORT REQUESTING OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE. EMBASSY OFFICER ASSURED DIRECTORATE REP THAT LETTER WOULD BE SENT IMMEDIATELY. THEREFORE, DIRECTORATE NOW PERMITTING PLANE TO CONTINUE ON TO CHILE AND ALSO WILL GRANT OVERFLIGHT CLEARNACE FOR THE RETURN FLIGHT OF N 295 F THROUGH AUGUST 28.

4. COMMENT: FAILURE TO PROVIDE CORRECT AND COMPLETE INFORMATION AS WELL AS LAST MINUTE NATURE OF THEIR REQUESTS HAD UNFORTUNATELY MADE EMBASSY'S TASK OF OBTAINING RAPID AUTHORIZATION MORE DIFFICULT. TO AVOID RECURRENCE, PLEASE HAVE OVERSEAS PROVIDE PERUVIAN AUTHORITIES WITH ACCURATE INFORMATION.

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Message Attributes

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